

### REMARKS

Of the original 17 claims that were filed, claims 1-10 currently are pending. Claim 6 has been determined to be allowable, claim 7 has been amended, and claims 8 and 9 remain in their original form. Claims 1-5 and 10-17 have been cancelled, without prejudice to the subject matter thereof.

In the specification, the Examiner objected to informalities found on pages 1, 2, 4, 7, 15, 18, 20-25, 33, and stated that references 13-25 (listed on pages 28 and 29) could not be found in the application.

In response, the applicant has amended the specification as directed above. Specifically, the "M." on pages 1 and 2 has been italicized; a comma has been placed after "and 8" on page 4; *tuberculosi* has been replaced with *tuberculosum* on page 7; the embedded hyperlinks on pages 18 and 20-25 have been removed; and italics have been removed from the word "strains" on page 33. Table 5 on page 15 is complete as filed.

Regarding the Examiner's statement that references 13-25 (listed on pages 28 and 29) could not be found, the applicant has submitted herewith the pages listing these references. Because references 13-25 are all noted in the written description as filed, no new matter is believed to have been added.

The Examiner also objected to the lack of Sequence Identifiers on pages 20-26. In response, each sequence appearing on the cited pages has been given a Sequence Identifier (Nos. 19-27). Moreover, a substitute Sequence Listing and computer readable form that include the newly added sequences are provided herewith. The applicant, through the undersigned attorney, hereby states that the amendments, made in accordance with 37 CFR 1.825(a), included in the

sheets of the Sequence Listing are supported in the application, as filed, at pages 20-26. The applicant further states that the amended sheets of the Sequence Listing do not include new matter and that the substitute copy of the computer readable form, submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.825(b), is the same as the amended Sequence Listing.

In view of the amendments above, the applicant respectfully submits that the written description and claims are in compliance with all formal requirements.

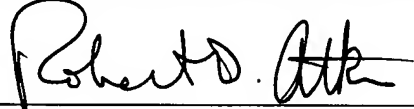
Regarding the claims, the Examiner rejected claims 7-9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the applicant regards as the invention. In response, claim 7 has been amended with the language suggested by the Examiner. Because claims 8 and 9 depend from the amended claim 7, those claims also are now believed to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112. Claim 10 has been cancelled.

In view of the above-described amendments and the Examiner's finding that claim 6 is allowable, the applicant respectfully requests that this case be advanced to allowance.

Except for the fee payable for a petition for a one-month extension of time, no fee is believed to be due with this response. Should there be any unforeseen costs, please charge our Deposit Account No. 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

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